

and where children have the quality education, child care, and the health care they need to grow into our leaders of tomorrow.

The Alliance for Children and Families represents several vital organizations in Chicago. There are fifteen Alliance members who work in the heart of Chicago. Included in this group of advocates are: Casa Central; Centers for New Horizons, Inc.; Chicago Children's Advocacy Center; Child Care Association of Illinois; Children's Home and Aid Society of Illinois; ChildServ; Generations of Success; Jane Addams Hull House; Jewish Child and Family Services; Kids Hope United; Lawrence Hall Youth Services; Methodist Youth Services, Inc.; Metropolitan Family Services; and Salvation Army Family Services. I am grateful for each of them and all the wonderful work that they do. Specifically I would like to recognize the Jane Addams Hull House, which recently received a \$3 million dollar grant from the Department of Education for its Early Reading First program. This grant illustrates the outstanding work that the three-hundred member organizations of the Alliance for Children and Families do for our citizens. I recognize and understand the importance of groups like the Jane Addams Hull House that provide important services to communities. I also want to recognize the efforts of the numerous other organizations in the Seventh District of Illinois that are not members of the Alliance but who are committed to the betterment of child welfare and well-being. These organizations work hard to teach our children, advocate on behalf of families everywhere, and provide necessary services to help strengthen communities.

As George Bernard Shaw once said, "Perhaps the greatest social service that can be rendered by anybody to this country and to mankind is to bring up a family." The Alliance for Children and Family and their three hundred members help families and communities successfully achieve the greatest social service by providing the tools necessary to ensure healthy and stable communities. It is my great honor to recognize National Family Week, the Alliance for Children and Families, and all that they do to ensure the success of our nation's children and families.

IN RECOGNITION OF AMBASSADOR
JOHN R. MILLER

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2006

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the work of one of the leaders of the modern-day abolitionist movement, Ambassador John R. Miller, who has announced he will step down as Director of the U.S. Department of State's Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons.

He will be greatly missed.

As Ambassador Miller has often reminded us, trafficking in persons is modern-day slavery. With that conviction, he has led his office, and the whole of U.S. government, on a mission to settle for nothing short of the abolition of this terrible international crime.

Under Ambassador Miller's leadership, the U.S. government has grown in its commitment—both at home and abroad—against modern-day slavery. His work has helped

spotlight the issue of slavery around the world, through the annual Secretary of State's Trafficking in Persons Report, diplomatic engagement, speeches and multiple prosecution, protection, and prevention programs around the world.

Earlier this year, New York Times columnist Nicholas D. Kristof praised the U.S. commitment to abolishing modern-day slavery, noting:

[T]he heaviest lifting has been done by the State Department's tiny office on trafficking—for my money, one of the most effective units in the U.S. government. The office, led by a former Republican congressman, John Miller . . . puts out an annual report that shames and bullies foreign governments into taking action against forced labor of all kinds.

The 2006 Trafficking in Persons Report is the most comprehensive worldwide report on the efforts of governments to combat severe forms of trafficking in persons. Along with previous editions, its findings have raised global awareness and compelled countries to take effective actions to counter human trafficking. Under Ambassador Miller's direction, the Report has steadily increased its country assessment total each year—from 124 governments reviewed in 2003 to 158 countries assessed in the 2006 TIP Report.

During that time, Ambassador Miller also oversaw crucial refinements to the Report, elevating the annual compendium to a level of sophistication rarely enjoyed by a publication of its kind: the Trafficking in Persons Report has become the gold standard on which governments and the media are able to weigh progress on the global effort to fight human trafficking.

Annual release of the report has also generated increasing media coverage, helping raise global consciousness of the existence and widespread problem of modern-day slavery. Release of the 2006 Report, for example, produced widespread coverage by national and international print, broadcast, and Internet media, reaching, for the second year in a row, more than 400 million people across the globe. Media coverage was particularly intense in many of the Tier 3 and Tier 2 Watch List countries, such as Saudi Arabia and India.

Today, the TIP Report is the essential reference for global benchmarks that challenge all governments to join the 21st century abolitionist movement. The annual Trafficking in Persons Report serves as the primary diplomatic tool through which the U.S. Government encourages partnership and increased determination in the fight against forced labor, sexual exploitation, and modern-day slavery.

"In our judgment," declared Dr. Mohamed Mattar, Executive Director of the Protection Project, "this report constitutes the primary reference and main source of information on efforts made by foreign governments to combat trafficking in persons."

Armed with the report, Ambassador Miller has engaged with governments from Japan to Jamaica, from Belize to Bangladesh, to bring about improved law enforcement, victim protection, and prevention of this odious crime. Worldwide, Ambassador Miller's diplomatic leadership helped spur new or improved anti-human trafficking legislation in 41 countries in 2005, along with the establishment of dozens of new survivor shelters. That effort paid huge dividends: anti-trafficking convictions worldwide increased from several hundred, before Ambassador Miller arrived at the State Depart-

ment, to over 4,700 in 2005. Last year's figure—an increase from about 3,000 the year before—was especially dramatic among countries in Africa (from 29 TIP convictions in 2004 to 58 in 2005) and East Asia and Pacific nations (from 348 TIP convictions in 2004 to 2,347 in 2005).

Specifically, Ambassador Miller's diplomatic efforts helped persuade Japan to vastly reduce the number of TIP-exploitable "entertainment visas" Japan issued for young women from the Philippines—to fewer than 5,000, from a high of 80,000 a year. In addition, Ambassador Miller has carefully honed the report's system of tier rankings to cultivate global anti-TIP efforts. This year, for example, Malawi rose from Tier 2 to Tier 1 on the TIP Report, while Ecuador rose from Tier 3 to Tier 2.

Over the last 2 years, Ambassador Miller helped enhance the U.S. government's anti-trafficking efforts to include a greater focus against child sex tourism (CST), a crime in which people travel from their own country to developing countries, such as Laos or Cambodia, looking for anonymity and the availability of children in prostitution. Ambassador Miller's leadership against CST has netted success, as Time magazine recently observed:

Those working to protect children in Cambodia agree that the police force has recently shown a far stronger commitment to targeting pedophiles. But it's not just law and order that is doing the trick. A new political will to root them out is the result of diplomatic incentives and pressures, both the carrots of international donors and the stick of the U.S. State Department, say child protection workers. . . . But the stick came in 2005 when the U.S. State Department, fed up with the impunity enjoyed by traffickers here, relegated Cambodia to its lowest tier three rating on its global trafficking report. Cambodia was lumped in with Burma, Cuba and North Korea, and Washington threatened sanctions against Phnom Penh for its inability to comply with 'minimum standards' to combat human trafficking and convict officials involved.

In part because of Ambassador Miller's efforts, since 2003 over 30 American pedophiles have been extradited back to the U.S. and sent to jail.

With Ambassador Miller's prodding, the United States last December became an official party to the U.N. Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, also known as the Palermo Protocol. The Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Protocol, which supplements the U.N. Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime, is an important multilateral component of the worldwide effort to combat modern-day slavery. It seeks to prevent trafficking, protect victims, and promote anti-trafficking cooperation among nations.

As chairman of the interagency Senior Policy Operating Group, Ambassador Miller has improved coordination among U.S. agencies, helping to make the panel a decision-making body whose participants have furthered the U.S. effort against trafficking in person both at home and abroad. For example, the Department of Justice (DOJ), in 2005 charged 116 individuals with human trafficking, almost doubling the number charged in FY 2004. Approximately 80 percent of those defendants were charged under the federal Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000. Forty-five traffickers were convicted, of which 35

were implicated in sexual exploitation. As of May 22, 2006, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) had certified 1,000 victims of human trafficking since the TVPA was signed into law in October 2000. In FY 2005, HHS certified 230 foreign victims of human trafficking from a remarkably diverse array of countries.

On a personal note, during his tenure as Director of the State Department's Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, Ambassador John R. Miller has been a friend and colleague to those of us in Congress who have taken a leadership role against modern-day slavery. We wish him well in his future work as a Professor of International Studies at George Washington University.

COUNCIL OF KHALISTAN HAS SUCCESSFUL CONVENTION

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, recently, Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh publicly stated that India is the victim of cross-border terror. The Council of Khalistan under the leadership of Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh wrote to Prime Minister Singh and reminded him that India has been sponsoring cross-border terrorism in Sindh, a province of Pakistan, as the Washington Times reported on January 2, 2002 and that it created the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, which our government has identified as a terrorist organization, according to Indian Today, which is the leading news magazine in India.

It has also sponsored domestic terrorism against the minorities within its borders, including murdering a quarter of a million Sikhs and holding another 52,000 as political prisoners; killing Muslims by the tens of thousands in Kashmir, where more than 90,000 have been killed, Gujarat, where between 2,000 and 5,000 died in a massacre preplanned by the government, and elsewhere; killing Christians throughout the country, including over 300,000 just in Nagaland; and mass killing many other minorities. Yet India proclaims itself the victim of terrorism and proclaims itself a democracy. Well, Mr. Speaker, it certainly doesn't act that way.

The repression and terrorism must be stopped. We should end all aid and trade with India until such time as the repression ends and people enjoy the most basic human rights, and we should throw our full support behind self-determination in Punjab, Khalistan, in Kashmir, in Nagaland, and wherever people are trying to be free. In addition, we should designate India a terrorist state and impose the sanctions that that designation brings.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert the Council of Khalistan's open letter into the RECORD. It is a frightening record of Indian terrorism.

COUNCIL OF KHALISTAN,

Washington, DC, October 10, 2006.

OPEN LETTER TO INDIAN PRIME MINISTER
MANMOHAN SINGH: INDIA IS A TERRORIST
STATE, NOT A VICTIM

DEAR PRIME MINISTER SINGH: On October 4, you said that India is it victim of crossborder terrorism. India is a terrorist state itself and should be subject to the penalties that are imposed on terrorist states.

On January 2, 2002, the Washington Times reported that India is supporting cross-border terrorism in Sindh, a province of Pakistan, the very same kind of thing that Prime Minister Singh was claiming is victimizing India. In addition, India's leading newsmagazine, India Today, reported that the Indian government created the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), identified by the U.S. government as a terrorist organization, and its leaders were put up by the Indian government in the finest hotel in Delhi. How can you blame Pakistan when India started cross-border terrorism with its own actions?

The Indian government has committed terrorism against its own minorities. It has murdered over 250,000 Sikh infants, children, youth, men, women, and elderly since 1984, as well as more than 300,000 Christians in Nagaland, over 90,000 Muslims in Kashmir, tens of thousands of Christians and Muslims throughout the country, and tens of thousands of Assamese, Bodos, Dalits, Manipuris, Tamils, and other minorities. A report by the Movement Against State Repression (MASR) states that 52,268 Sikhs are being held as political prisoners in India without charge or trial, mostly under a repressive law known as the "Terrorist and Disruptive Activities Act" (TADA), which expired in 1995. Many have been in illegal custody since 1984! There has been no list published of those who were acquitted under TADA and those who are still rotting in Indian jails. Tens of thousands of other minorities are also being held as political prisoners, according to Amnesty International. Tell the families of these innocent Sikhs and others that there is no terrorism in India.

Indian police arrested human-rights activist Jaswant Singh Khalsa after he exposed their policy of mass cremation of Sikhs, in which over 50,000 Sikhs have been arrested, tortured, and murdered, then their bodies were declared unidentified and secretly cremated. Khalsa was murdered in police custody. His body was not given to his family. No one has been brought to justice for the kidnapping and murder of Jaswant Singh Khalsa. The only witness to the Khalsa kidnapping, Rajiv Singh Randhawa, has been repeatedly harassed by the police, including having been arrested for trying to hand a note to then British Home Secretary Jack Straw. Last year, 35 Sikhs were charged and arrested in Punjab for making speeches in support of Khalistan and raising the Khalistani flag. How can making speeches and raising a flag be considered crimes in a democratic society?

The police never released the body of former Jathedar of the Akal Takht Gurdev Singh Kaunke after SSP Swaran Singh Ghotna murdered him. He has never been tried for the Jathedar Kaunke murder. In 1994, the U.S. State Department reported that the Indian government had paid over 41,000 cash bounties for killing Sikhs. The MASR report quotes the Punjab Civil Magistracy as writing "if we add up the figures of the last few years the number of innocent persons killed would run into lakhs [hundreds of thousands.]" The Indian Supreme Court called the Indian government's murders of Sikhs "worse than a genocide."

Missionary Graham Staines was murdered along with his two sons, ages 8 and 10, by a mob of militant, fundamentalist Hindu nationalists who set fire to the jeep, surrounded it, and chanted "Victory to Hanuman," a Hindu god. Missionary Joseph Cooper was beaten so badly that he had to spend a week in an Indian hospital. Then the Indian government threw him out of the country. None of the people involved has been tried. The persons who have murdered priests, raped nuns, and burned Christian churches have not been charged or tried. Po-

lice broke up a Christian religious festival with gunfire. Recently, militant Hindus from the Bharatiya Janata Yuva (a youth movement affiliated with the BJP and the Fascist RSS) attacked the Convent of Loreto and the school there. A spokesman for the BJP, Mr. H. Dikshit, demanded an investigation of the school!

The murderers of 2,000 to 5,000 Muslims in Gujarat have never been brought to trial. An Indian newspaper reported that the police were ordered not to get involved in that massacre, a frightening parallel to the Delhi massacre of Sikhs in 1984. The most important mosque in India, the Babri Mosque, was destroyed by militant Hindu fundamentalists who have never been held responsible for their actions.

It is good that you have admitted the guilt of the Indian government for the Delhi massacres, in which over 20,000 Sikhs were killed, by apologizing for the massacres, but what good does it do the Sikh Nation? Where are the apologies for the Golden Temple attack, the destruction of the Akal Takht, and the desecration of Darbar Sahib, and the other atrocities? Where is the compensation for the victims' families? That operation was yet another act of Indian domestic terrorism.

The Guru granted sovereignty to the Sikh Nation, saying "In Grief Sikhin Ko Deon Patshahi." We must remind ourselves of our heritage by raising slogans of "Khalistan Zindabad" and beginning a Shantmai Morcha to liberate our homeland, Khalistan. Whoever is honest and dedicated in leading that Shantmai Morcha deserves our support. Every morning and evening we recite, "Raj Kare Ga Khalsa." Now is the time to act on it. Do we mean what we say every morning and evening?

The flame of freedom continues to burn brightly in the heart of the Sikh Nation. No force can suppress it. Recently, Dal Khalsa and the Shiromani Khalsa Dal announced that they are uniting for sovereignty for Khalistan. This was met with chants of "Khalistan Zindabad." The Punjab Legislative Assembly proclaimed the sovereignty of Punjab when it cancelled the water agreements. Only by liberating Khalistan can we put an end to the repression and terrorism against the Sikh Nation by the Indian regime. Now is the time to rededicate ourselves to the liberation of Khalistan.

Last year, Sikh farmers were expelled from Uttaranchal Pradesh and their land was seized. They were beaten up by the police. Their homes were bulldozed by paratroopers. Their homes in many cases were built using their life savings and by their own hands. We condemn this act of state terrorism by the government of Uttaranchal Pradesh. As you know, Sikhs are prohibited from buying land in Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh. Now Uttaranchal Pradesh joins that list. Yet there are no restrictions on land ownership in Punjab by non-Sikhs. People from anywhere can buy land in Punjab, including people from Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh. India is trying to subvert Khalistan's independence by overrunning Punjab with non-Sikhs while keeping Sikhs from escaping the brutal repression in Punjab. It is incumbent on the Sikh diaspora to free Khalistan. We must redouble our efforts. That is the only way to keep these atrocities from continuing and to protect the Sikh Nation and the Sikh religion.

The Akali Dal conspired with the Indian government in 1984 to invade the Golden Temple to murder Sant Bhindranwale and 20,000 other Sikhs during June 1984 in Punjab. Among those who conspired with the government, according to Chakravayuh: Web of Indian Secularism, were Dr. Chohan, Ganga Singh Dhillon, and Didar Singh Bains